

EXAMINER'S COMMENT

1. An Applicant's Request for Reconsideration filed on October 5, 2009 has been entered. Claims 10-19, 21, 22, and 36-43 have been canceled; and claims 1 and 2 have been amended. Overall, claims 1-9, 20, and 23-35 are pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As indicated on page 9 of Applicant's Request, Applicant persuasively argues that the prior art of record fails to teach or suggest "*a replacement control section for replacing the estimated accumulation amount with a greater estimated accumulation amount when the estimated accumulation amount falls within a replacement determination reference range due to the heating and the at least one difference is greater than a replacement reference value.*"

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Communication

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Tu Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-4862.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Thomas E. Denion, can be reached on (571) 272-4859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TMN

October 22, 2009

/Tu M. Nguyen/

Tu M. Nguyen

Primary Examiner

Art Unit 3748